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Message Text

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 /024 W
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R 020348Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6165
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OREP (SOLARZ, STEPHEN)
SUBJ: CODEL SOLARZ VISIT TO KOREA

SUMMARY: REPRESENTATIVE AND MRS. STEPHEN SOLARZ VISITED KOREA FROM AUGUST 29 THROUGH AUGUST 31. CONGRESSMAN SOLARZ CALLED ON PRESIDENT PARK, FOREIGN MINISTER, DEFENSE MINISTER, US AND ROK OFFICIALS, KOREAN INTELLECTUALS, CHURCHMEN, AND OPPOSITION FIGURES. HE ALSO TOURED I CORPS AND THE SECOND DIVISION AND RECEIVED BRIEFINGS ON THE MILITARY SITUATION.

1. REPRESENTATIVE AND MRS. STEPHEN SOLARZ ARRIVED IN SEOUL IN THE EVENING OF AUGUST 29. ON AUGUST 30, AFTER BREAKFAST WITH A LEADER OF THE KOREAN CHRISTIAN STUDENT FEDERATION, CONGRESSMAN SOLARZ JOINED SENATOR GLENN IN DISCUSSIONS WITH EMBASSY PERSONNEL AND WIVES. AMBASSADOR SNEIDER BRIEFED THE CONGRESSMAN WHO THEN CALLED ON THE FOREIGN MINISTER. CONGRESSMAN SOLARZ JOINED REPRESENTATIVE ASPIN AND GENERAL VESSEY IN A CALL ON THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE WHERE BOTH CONGRESSMEN DISCUSSED ROK MILITARY REQUIREMENTS IN THE FACE OF THE REDUCTION OF US GROUND FORCES. THE TWO CONGRESSMEN THEN WENT TO I CORPS FOR BRIEFINGS WITH GENERAL CUSHMAN. WHILE AT I CORPS, CONGRESSMAN SOLARZ TALKED TO MRS. FAYE MUN, WIFE OF MYONGDONG PRISONER STEPHEN MUN. BOTH CONGRESSMEN TOURED I CORPS AND THE
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SECOND DIVISION AREA, WITNESSING UNIT MANEUVERS AND INSPECTING ROK TROOPS AT HILL 229. IN THE EVENING OF AUGUST 30, CONGRESSMAN AND MRS. SOLARZ CALLED ON FORMER PRESIDENT YUN PO-SUN AND CHUNG IL HYUNG AND HIS WIFE LEE TAE YONG.

2. ON AUGUST 31, CONGRESSMAN SOLARZ WAS BRIEFED BY GENERAL

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VESSEY AND CALLED ON BISHOP PAUL LEE, PRESIDENT OF THE KOREAN NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES. HE JOINED REPRESENTATIVE ASPIN AND THE AMBASSADOR IN A CALL ON PRESIDENT PARK. THE AMBASSADOR HOSTED A LUNCHEON FOR CONGRESSMAN SOLARZ AND GUESTS INCLUDED BLUE HOUSE ADVISOR KIM KYONG-WON, KIM JUN-HYOP OF THE ASIAN AFFAIRS INSTITUTE, KIM SANG-HYOP, PRESIDENT OF KOREA UNIVERSITY, KIM TONG-KIL, FORMER PROFESSOR, MUN TAE-CHUN, ASSEMBLYMAN, DR. HORACE UNDERWOOD, YONSEI UNIVERSITY, AND REV. EDWARD POITRAS, METHODIST SEMINARY.

3. CONGRESSMAN SOLARZ FOCUSED ON TROOP WITHDRAWAL AND RELATED SECURITY ISSUES AND HUMAN RIGHTS. HE EXPRESSED SATISFACTION WITH THE PROGRAM PREPARED FOR HIM.
SNEIDER

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